

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 06722 090800Z
ACTION VO-06

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 SS-00 AMAD-01 INSE-01 /008 W
-----147677 090805Z /38
R 090758Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9932

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 06722

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: CVIS, LE
SUBJECT: BEIRUT IV ISSUES

REFS: (A) BEIRUT 5771, (B) STATE 349373

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. WE WOULD STILL LIKE TO HAVE AN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION RAISED IN PARA 3, REF B, REGARDING THE TWO SB IV CASES THAT WE FEEL SHOULD BE HANDLED IN BEIRUT RATHER THAN OUTSIDE LEBANON.
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3. IN REFERENCE TO THE POSSIBLE POLYGAMY CASE MENTIONED IN REF A, PARA 4, WE SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING CHRONOLOGY AND INTERPRETATIONS: THE REF COUPLE WAS MARRIED IN BEIRUT ON MARCH 9, 1985, UNDER A RELIGIOUS DECREE THAT LISTED BOTH PARTIES AS MOSLEMS. THE VISA PETITION WAS FILED ON AUGUST 14, 1985. THE HUSBAND THEN OBTAINED A DIVORCE FROM HIS PREVIOUS WIFE ON AUGUST 27, 1985. THE SECOND WIFE HAS NOT YET FORMALLY APPLIED FOR HER IV, BUT AS AN EMBASSY EMPLOYEE WOULD BE ABLE TO DO SO IN BEIRUT AT ANY TIME.
4. SINCE BOTH PARTIES WERE LISTED AS MOSLEMS, LOCAL RELIGIOUS LAW RAISES NO PROBLEMS WITH POLYGAMY. THEREFORE, THE SECOND MARRIAGE MAY BE CONSIDERED AS
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LOCALLY RECOGNIZED. THE SUBSEQUENT DISSOLUTION OF THE FIRST MARRIAGE PRIOR TO THE WIFE'S FORMAL VISA APPLICATION THUS WOULD SEEM TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE, SINCE THE HUSBAND THUS BECOMES THE MONAGAMOUS SPOUSE VIA A LOCALLY RECOGNIZED MARRIAGE, AT THE TIME THE

ALIEN WIFE APPLIES FOR HER IV.

5. IN ANY CASE, APPLICANT HAS NO IMMEDIATE TRAVEL PLANS.
MCNAMARA

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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